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THE

# INTERIM

A REPORT OF INTERIM ACTIVITY . . . MONTANA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL . . . HELENA

JUNE 1983

VOL. IV, NO. 1

## PLEASE RETURN

With this issue, the fourth volume of the Interim begins.

The newsletter is designed to provide a centralized source of information on the activities of the Legislature and its agencies. Legislators are the audience we aim to reach. Each member receives a copy of the newsletter. As a courtesy, copies are also sent to other elected officials and department heads of state government. Subscriptions are available to others who ask, but our goal simply is to provide legislative information to the members of the Legislature.

Articles are designed to be short and readable. Sufficient information is provided to indicate what is being done by interim groups and to allow a member to know whether to contact a legislative office for a copy of a full report for additional information.

The newsletter includes a calendar of legislative events for the two months following publication. We find that the members really use these calendars and try to rely upon them. Planning firm meeting dates is difficult, frustrating, and largely out of our control, but the members do appreciate it when it can be done. We will include a disclaimer warning of the ephemeral nature of the announced dates.

The newsletter will be used to inform you of administrative matters of interest. Information on pay, benefits, and insurance would be included.

This is your newsletter. If you have suggestions or comments, please contact Bob Person at the Legislative Council.

### LEGISLATIVE PUBLICATIONS

The book published after each session detailing the history and final status of every bill from the 1983 session will be in the mail the week of June 6. The Legislative Council staff is proud of the fact that this publication is ready for distribution two months earlier than it was in 1981.

### INTERIM COMMITTEES

The poll of interim study priorities has been tabulated. This year, two different methods have been used. The purpose of the second method is to neutralize the bias that occurs when a member fails to include all

HISTORY AND  
FINAL STATUS

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resolutions on the list. The results are not significantly different from one another.

<u>Priority</u>	<u>Traditional Method</u>	<u>New Method</u>
1	Agricultural Land Taxation	Same except that priority 4 and 5 are reversed.
2	Navigability	
3	State Investments	
4	Court Unification	
5	Management of State Lands	
6	Public Pensions	
7	Insurance Laws	
8	Teacher Tenure	
9	Veterans and Handicapped Employment	
10	Community Colleges	

The Legislative Council will consider these priorities, available budget (\$50,000 for all studies), and available staff resources when it assigns studies and designates committees at its meeting June 13. Each member of the Legislature will be polled once again following the June 13 meeting to provide the appointing authority with your preference for service on a committee. Please respond promptly upon receipt of your poll.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COUNCIL

EQC PLANNING  
SESSION SET  
JUNE 23

The Environmental Quality Council has scheduled a meeting for Thursday, June 23, at 9:00 a.m. in Room 104 of the Capitol. The Council will establish subcommittees, work assignments, identify priorities, and otherwise determine plans for its work in the 1983-84 interim at that time.

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

STUDIES TO BE  
SELECTED JUNE 13

The Legislative Council plans to meet June 13 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 139 of the Capitol.

The agenda includes:

1) Designation of interim studies and assignment to subcommittees (see article on interim studies in this issue).

NCSL, CSG,  
FIVE-STATE

2) Matters related to participation in the National Conference of State Legislatures, Council of State Governments, and Five-State Conference, including legislative members to be appointed and staff to be assigned to participate.

OTHER BUSINESS

3) Council involvement in any "Legislative Improvement" activities during the interim.

4) Other Council business.

ADMINISTRATIVE CODE COMMITTEE

FULL AGENDA FOR  
JUNE 10 ACC  
ACC MEETING

The Administrative Code Committee will meet Friday, June 10, at 8:30 a.m. in Room 139 of the State Capitol.

The first matter to be considered will be an objection by the Montana Health Care Association and others to rules proposed by the Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services governing state reimbursement for skilled nursing and other intermediate care services. The Health Care Association has charged that the proposed rules are contrary to the intention of the 1983 Legislature.

Later in the morning, the Committee will hear a presentation by the Secretary of State's office concerning 1983 appropriation changes for support of the publication of the Montana Administrative Register and the Administrative Rules of Montana which may result in increased subscription fees and increased rule filing fees for these publications. State law requires the Secretary to consult with the Committee in establishing the costs of publication.

Also on the Committee's agenda is a discussion of the study required by House Bill 59 passed by the 1983 Legislature. This bill, introduced at the request of the Committee, requires the Committee to study all administrative rules adopted by agencies under the Montana Administrative Procedure Act prior to the creation of the Committee. The purpose of the study will be to determine whether these early rules still comply with state law.

The Committee will discuss a study conducted by the Committee staff on those state statutes requiring rules to be adopted and will also review the agency rules proposed in Issues 5 through 9 of the 1983 Montana Administrative Register.

LEGISLATIVE AUDIT COMMITTEE

LEGISLATIVE AUDIT  
COMMITTEE MEETING

The Legislative Audit Committee will meet June 20 in Room 104 of the Capitol.

FINANCIAL/  
COMPLIANCE AUDITS

The Committee will receive and review the following financial/compliance audit reports:

Center for the Aged

Department of Labor and Industry

Department of Natural Resources and Conservation

Warm Springs/Galen State Hospital

PERFORMANCE  
AUDIT

The Committee will also receive and review the following performance audit:

State-Owned and Leased Land

REPORTS AVAILABLE

Copies of all reports are available from the Office of the Legislative Auditor, Room 135, State Capitol, telephone 449-3122.

REVENUE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

ROC PLANS SET  
AT MAY 26 MEETING

The Revenue Oversight Committee met in Helena on May 26 to adopt study work plans for HJR 31 and SJR 23. HJR 31 deals with the administrative, legal, and equity issues related to Montana's property classification system; SJR 23 is a study that examines various aspects of state and federal tax credits, deductions, exemptions, and exclusions.

The Committee adopted tentative work plans and meeting dates for the biennium and asked that the Legislative Council consider assigning HJR 35, the agricultural land tax study, to the Revenue Oversight Committee. The Committee also accepted an offer of assistance from the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy to provide technical resources to aid the Revenue Oversight Committee with its study of property tax classification in Montana.

NEXT DATE SET  
AUGUST 26

The next regular meeting of the Committee is scheduled for August 26, 1983.

CAPITOL BUILDING AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

THIRD MEETING  
JUNE 6

The Capitol Building and Planning Committee will hold its third meeting since adjournment on Monday, June 6. Prime issues on the agenda include a review of revised plans for a third floor snack bar and space for the media.

PLANNING WELL  
UNDER WAY

At its previous meetings, the Committee reviewed schematic drawings of plans that would remodel space vacated by the Supreme Court and Attorney General and provide additional and improved committee meeting rooms, while not moving the Senate. Working drawing should be completed soon so the project can go to bid and work can begin.

FIVE-STATE CONFERENCE

CONFERENCE  
PLANNING UNDERWAY

The Five-State Conference Planning Committee met in Cody, Wyoming, May 6. The Conference will be held in Wyoming sometime between September 15 and 30. The Wyoming host committee will settle on exact dates, location, and agenda based on discussions of the planning group. Complete information will be included here when it becomes available. The Five-State Conference is an informal conference of legislators from North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Wyoming, and Montana that is held each odd-numbered year. Topics of regional interest are discussed during the day-and-a-half conference.

WESTERN STATES FORESTRY TASK FORCE

TASK FORCE  
MEETING IN D.C.

Senator Severson reports that the Western States Legislative Forestry Task Force met in Washington, D.C. on May 1, 2, and 3. All of the Montana members attended, along with Gary Brown (State Forester) and Bob Holding, representing the Timber Products Industry.

The main item on the agenda was action to be taken to resolve RARE II. This process has been going on for 12 years and it was the unanimous decision of the Task Force that there are sufficient data to resolve the issue. This is easier said than done. It is important that this issue be resolved to ensure timber supply from the National Forests. It is impossible to plan for the future without knowing if they have an adequate supply of timber.

The Montana delegation visited with all of our Montana Congressmen on this and two other issues, those being the Timber Contract Relief Bill and how road credits are important for Montana if this legislation is passed. Montana isn't involved in the over-bidding of timber. Cooperative Fire and Management Federal funding with Montana and private forests was also discussed.

The Montana delegation also met with Max Peterson, Chief of the Forest Service, and many of his staff.

Senator Severson reports that the delegation had a good reception with our Montana representatives in Congress.

NEXT MEETING IN  
MONTANA IN JULY

The next meeting of the Task Force will be at Big Sky, Montana, in July.

#### LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES

PLEASE NOTE  
SCHEDULE FOR  
FURTHER INFO

A number of interim committees of various types have already been appointed. For your convenience, those which have been appointed are listed here. Other committees, including interim subcommittees, are likely to be appointed the last week in June. Updates will be printed as they become available. When all committees have been appointed, an interim directory will be published showing all appointments, staff, and summaries of responsibilities.

#### Administrative Code Committee

Senate  
Pete Story, Chr.  
H. W. Hammond  
Lawrence G. Stimatz  
Bill Thomas

House  
Fritz Daily, V.-Chr.  
Les Kitselman  
James M. Schultz  
Gary Spaeth

#### Capitol Building and Planning Committee

Senate  
Carroll Graham, Chr.  
Chet Blaylock  
Max Conover  
Pat M. Goodover  
J. Donald Ochsner  
Pete Story

House  
W. Jay Fabrega, V.-Chr.  
Robert Dozier  
Marian W. Hanson  
Kerry Keyser  
William Menahan  
Jerald L. Metcalf

#### Environmental Quality Council

Senate  
Mike Halligan, V.-Chr.  
Dorothy Eck  
James Shaw  
Larry Tveit

House  
Dennis Iverson, Chr.  
Dave Brown  
Hal Harper  
Earl Lory

Public  
Tad Dale  
W. Leslie Pengelly  
Frank Stock  
Warren Harding



Legislative Audit Committee

Senate  
Harold L. Dover, V.-Chr.  
Matt Himsl  
Judy Jacobson  
J. D. Lynch

House  
Kathleen McBride, Chr.  
Toni Bergene  
John Harp  
Steve Waldron

Legislative Consumer Committee

Senate  
Gary Lee, V.-Chr.  
Paul Boylan

House  
Joe Quilici, Chr.  
Andrea Hemstad

Legislative Council

Senate  
Allen C. Kolstad, V.-Chr.  
Kermit Daniels  
Pat Goodover  
Carroll Graham

House  
Rex Manuel, Chr.  
Ralph Eudaily  
Bob Marks  
John Vincent

Legislative Finance Committee

Senate  
Fred Van Valkenburg, Chr.  
Roger Elliott  
Jack Haffey  
George McCallum  
Pat Regan  
Ed Smith

House  
Gene Donaldson, V.-Chr.  
Francis Bardanouve  
Esther Bengtson  
Ron Miller  
Ray Peck  
Cal Winslow

Revenue Oversight Committee

Senate  
Bill Norman, V.-Chr.  
Bob Brown  
Bruce Crippen  
Joe Mazurek  
Thomas Towe  
Jean Turnage

House  
Verner Bertelsen, Chr.  
Nancy Keenan  
Ken Nordtvedt  
Jack Ramirez  
J. Melvin Williams  
Dan Yardley

Coal Tax Oversight Subcommittee

Senate  
Delwyn Gage  
Chris Christiaens

House  
Glenn Roush  
Jack Sands

Select Committee on Indian Affairs

Senate  
Dorothy Eck  
Delwyn Gage  
Reed Marbut  
Thomas Towe

House  
Tom Asay  
Ramona Howe  
Ray Jensen  
Roland Kennerly

Power Plan Study Committee

Senate  
Dave Fuller  
Delwyn Gage  
Gary Lee  
John Mohar

House  
Harrison Fagg  
Dan Harrington  
Mike Kadas  
Carl Seifert

Western States Legislative Forestry Task Force

Senate  
Leo Lane  
Elmer Severson

House  
Glenn Mueller  
Bob Ream

HB 900

Prison Expansion Oversight Committee


Senate  
Kermit Daniels  
Mark Etchart

House  
Bob Thoft  
William Menahan

LEGISLATIVE INTERIM CALENDAR

JUNE		JUNE		JUNE		JUNE	
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
			1	2	3	4	
5	6 CAPITOL BUILDING & PLANNING COM. Rm. 104 - 10 a.m. All Day	7	8	9	10 ADMINISTRATIVE CODE COMMITTEE Rm 139 - All Day	11	
12	13 LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING Rm. 139-10 a.m.	14	15	16	17	18	
19	20 LEGISLATIVE AUDIT COMMITTEE Rm. 104-All Day	21	22	23 ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COUNCIL Room 104, 8-6	24	25	
26	27 LEGISLATIVE FINANCE COM. Rm. 104, All Day (tentative)	28	29	30			

## LEGISLATIVE INTERIM CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	JULY			FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY		
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
						
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	31					

\*All meetings are subject to change

## ADDRESS CHANGES

All legislative mailings will be made to you at the address to which this newsletter was sent unless you indicate otherwise. Sometimes members prefer to have general information sent to one address and financial material sent to another. Please use the form below to let us know what you want.

## MAILING ADDRESSES

Return to: Montana Legislative Council  
Room 138, State Capitol  
Helena MT 59620

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I would like state warrants and other financial material sent to the following different address:

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NOTE: Please don't forget us if you change your address.

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